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April 10th, at Sea.

Lat. 22° 45′ N.; Long. 22° 12′ W.

Greenwich Mean Time	$9^h\ 2^m\ 44^s$
Obs. Dist. from *Capella*	40° 20′ 10″
Obs. Dist. from *Aldebaran*	13 38 10
Obs. Alt. of *Capella*	39 35 0
Obs. Alt. of *Aldebaran*	27 45 0
Obs. Alt. of Comet	13 30 0

The comet was so dim that *Sirius* (being in an inconvenient position for holding the sextant) could not be observed.

Index Corr. + 20″; Height of Eye, 18 feet.

Minima of Algol and S Cancri for 1854 (*Mean Time Paris*).

By Prof. Argelander.

Minima of Algol.

1854.	h	m	1854.	h	m
May 3*	12	49	Sept. 29	14	58
6	9	38	Oct. 2	11	46
9	6	27	5	8	35
23	14	31	8	5	23
26	11	20	19	16	38
29	8	9	22	13	27
June 12	16	13	25	10	16
15	13	1	28	7	4
18	9	50	31	3	53
July 5	14	42	Nov. 11	15	8
8	11	30	14	11	57
11	8	19	17	8	46
25	16	22	20	5	35
28	13	10	Dec. 1	16	51
31	9	59	4	13	40
Aug. 3	6	47	7	10	29
17	14	49	10	7	18
20	11	38	13	4	7
23	8	27	21	18	34
26	5	15	24	15	23
Sept. 6	16	29	27	12	12
9	13	18	30	9	1
12	10	6	33	5	50
15	6	55			

"In computing this ephemeris, I assumed, as a starting point, the minimum of 1853, October 23, $10^h\ 7^m\ 37^s$ M.T., Paris, which

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* The earlier minima are here omitted.

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is founded upon four very consistent minima observed in October and November. Having compared this result with the minimum of 1842, September 19, 22^{h} 45^{m} 22^{s}, M.T., Paris, which was deduced from twenty-two observations comprised between the years 1840–7, and which is about 1413 periods earlier, I determined the period to be 2^{d} 20^{h} 48^{m} $53^{s}{\cdot}46$, with the probable error $\pm$ $0^{s}{\cdot}2$. A strong proof of a diminution here offers itself, and I have, accordingly, in the computation of the ephemeris, assumed the period to be 2^{d} 20^{h} 48^{m} 52^{s}, which cannot be very far removed from the truth. Moreover, since I have employed the equation of light, the calculated minima can deviate only very inconsiderably from the mean of the observations. I say the *mean* of the observations, since it appears to me on the whole that this period also is not very regular, and observers ought not, therefore, to be surprised to meet with individual deviations of from 15^{m} to 20^{m}. But I would request observers to dismiss from their minds the exact results of the ephemeris during the observation, so as to guard against the effects of prepossession.

Minima of S Cancri.

1854.	h	m	1854.	h	m
May 6	1	8	Oct. 23	18	14
15	12	45	Nov. 2	5	51
Aug. 27	20	32	11	17	28
Sept. 6	8	9	21	5	5
15	19	46	30	16	42
25	7	23	Dec. 10	4	19
Oct. 4	19	0	19	16	56
14	6	37	29	3	33

"I have also assigned the minima which occur in the daytime, since the epochs cannot be uncertain to the extent of more than an hour, and, even when the observation of the exact minimum is not practicable, it is always interesting to follow carefully the increase or diminution of brightness. Further, I would recall to mind that the variable *S Cancri* discovered by Mr. Hind is in *Præsepe*, whose position and comparison stars I have given in the *Astronomische Nachrichten*, vol. xxxvi., p. 69. But the position of the star *e* is there erroneously assigned.* It should be

1800. 8^{h} 32^{m} 23^{s} $+19^{\circ}$ $30'$ 1850. 8^{h} 35^{m} 15^{s} $+19^{\circ}$ $20'$

e precedes the variable star $7^{s}{\cdot}20$, and is situate $14'$ $2''$ more to the south."

Captain Shea continues his observations of the Solar Spots, noting their positions on the disk by means of diagrams. He remarks that, during the nineteen days which followed the 19th of February of the present year, not a single spot was visible, although the sun was clearly observed.

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* See also *Monthly Notices*, vol. xiii. p. 85.

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